

CROP-WEATHER REPORT



MONTANA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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Released: 2:00 p.m., MST, April 19, 2004
For Week Ending: April 18, 2004

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

Agricultural Summary

There were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending April 18th. Currently, fieldwork is 55% well underway, 22%, just started, and 23% no field work underway, compared to last year's ratings of 27% well underway, 34% just started, and 39% no field work underway.

For the week, most of Montana saw highs in the upper 60's to upper 70's, Glendive and Hardin were the hot spots for the state reaching 80 degrees. The lows for the state were mainly in the lower 20's to middle 30's with Scobey at 11 degrees for the state low. There were some areas of the state receiving rain during the week. The wet spot for the state was West Glacier with 0.74 inches of rainfall last week. The weather outlook for the week of April 26-May 2 is for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation for the entire state. Normal temperatures for this period are lows from the middle 20's to the upper 30's and highs from the lower 50's to middle 60's.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Topsoil Moisture			
Very Short	26	26	3
Short	33	28	19
Adequate	39	42	70
Surplus	2	4	8
Subsoil Moisture			
Very Short	35	28	21
Short	36	35	31
Adequate	28	36	47
Surplus	1	1	1
Range & Pasture Feed Condition			
Very poor	20	17	14
Poor	24	24	24
Fair	37	38	34
Good	16	18	26
Excellent	3	3	2

Field Crops and Livestock Report

Winter wheat conditions are declining due to a combination of winter kill and soil moisture levels. Also, crop planting is well ahead of last year and the five-year average due to the warmer temperatures and limited moisture.

Seventy-five percent of the pastures are open for grazing compared to last year's rating of 80 percent open. Calving and lambing are right on schedule with 82 percent and 53 percent completed compared to last year's 82 percent for cattle and 59 percent for sheep.

Crop Table

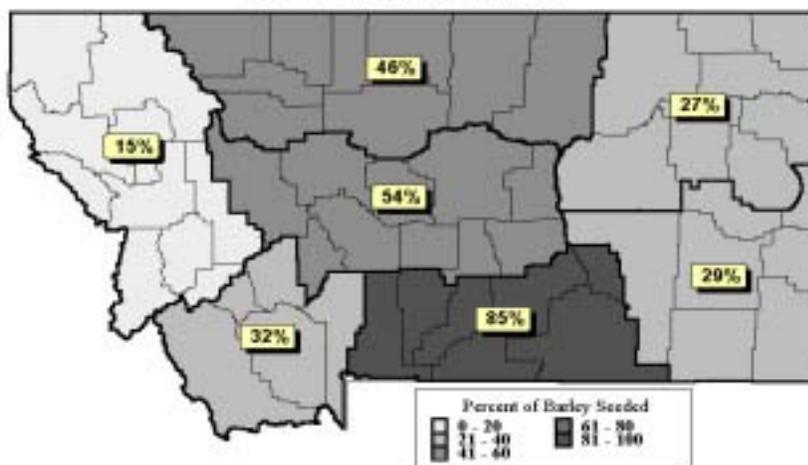
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat - Condition				
Very Poor	13	7	1	N/A
Poor	17	12	7	N/A
Fair	40	37	23	N/A
Good	26	40	56	N/A
Excellent	4	4	13	N/A
Winter Wheat-Spring Stages				
Still Dormant	1	1	1	N/A
Greening	15	31	17	N/A
Green & Growing	84	68	82	N/A
Barley				
Seeded	45	34	16	15
Emerged	14	2	N/A	N/A
Oats				
Seeded	25	10	6	7
Emerged	3	2	N/A	N/A
Spring Wheat				
Seeded	27	13	10	10
Emerged	2	1	N/A	N/A
Durum Wheat				
Seeded	4	2	2	1
Sugar Beets				
Seeded	34	1	16	22
Corn				
Seeded	14	0	2	2

Livestock Table

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-yr. Avg.
Livestock Grazing				
Open	75	65	80	N/A
Difficult	4	8	3	N/A
Closed	21	27	17	N/A
Receiving Supplemental Feed				
Cattle	78	84	82	N/A
Sheep and Lambs	73	74	85	N/A
Calving Completed				
	82	74	82	82
Lambing Completed				
	53	51	59	62

Percent of Barley Seeded

by District for week ending April 18, 2004



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Week Ending 6:00 p.m. MST, April 17, 2004 1/

STATION	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION							
	PAST WEEK			Past Week	April 1, 2004 to Date			October 1, 2003 to Date			
	High	Low	Avg.		Total 2/	Normal 3/	%	Total 2/	Normal 3/	%	
	Degrees			In.	Inches			Normal	Inches		Normal
NORTHWEST											
Drummond	74	21	44	0.05	0.38	0.56	68	4.14	5.07	82	
Hamilton	74	31	50	0.06	0.42	0.60	70	4.05	6.51	62	
Kalispell	73	28	45	0.69	1.26	0.69	183	7.72	8.48	91	
Libby	72	29	49	0.51	1.12	0.60	187	11.13	11.31	98	
Missoula	72	28	47	0.17	0.82	0.62	132	5.78	6.35	91	
Polson	70	31	49	0.67	1.05	0.75	140	5.78	7.18	81	
Superior	77	30	49	0.55	1.07	0.67	160	6.81	8.98	76	
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
West Glacier	71	28	47	0.74	1.23	1.01	122	M	M	M	
NORTH CENTRAL											
Chester	72	24	46	0.00	0.19	0.40	48	1.58	2.78	57	
Choteau	74	26	45	0.11	0.72	0.41	176	2.44	2.18	112	
Conrad	74	25	47	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Cut Bank	70	22	43	0.22	0.39	0.51	76	1.05	2.95	36	
Ft. Benton	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Gold Butte	72	16	46	0.00	0.27	0.62	44	2.96	3.74	79	
Harlem	73	27	47	0.00	0.05	0.41	12	2.29	2.87	80	
Havre	73	23	48	0.05	0.46	0.49	94	1.50	3.60	42	
Malta	70	28	47	0.29	0.29	0.51	57	3.83	3.46	111	
Shelby	73	26	44	0.00	0.27	0.43	63	1.73	2.96	58	
Turner	69	24	45	0.00	0.00	0.31	0	4.10	2.56	160	
Valier	71	23	46	0.06	0.41	0.52	79	2.40	2.83	85	
NORTHEAST											
Culbertson	74	15	44	0.36	0.49	0.52	94	3.16	3.20	99	
Glasgow	71	24	45	0.36	0.36	0.43	84	3.80	2.98	128	
Glendive	80	18	49	0.21	0.21	0.66	32	3.02	3.86	78	
Jordan	75	19	45	0.00	0.00	0.56	0	1.94	3.87	50	
Plentywood	60	13	39	0.10	0.10	0.46	22	M	M	M	
Scobey	67	11	41	0.40	0.40	0.47	85	3.00	2.73	110	
Sidney	79	20	46	0.27	0.27	0.61	44	3.79	4.08	93	
Wolf Point	72	15	42	0.57	0.60	0.45	133	3.48	3.09	113	
CENTRAL											
Cascade	68	23	44	0.11	M	M	M	M	M	M	
Flatwillow	76	26	49	0.13	0.25	0.67	37	3.20	4.13	77	
Great Falls	70	28	46	0.05	0.92	0.79	116	1.97	5.18	38	
Harlowton	76	20	46	0.08	0.42	0.74	57	2.96	4.09	72	
Helena	76	28	49	0.02	1.28	0.52	246	2.93	3.65	80	
Lewistown	72	27	45	0.42	0.45	0.78	58	4.08	6.03	68	
Melstone	77	25	51	0.02	0.07	0.84	8	M	M	M	
Roundup	77	23	48	0.00	0.03	0.73	4	2.68	3.99	67	
Stanford	70	24	45	0.09	0.26	0.87	30	4.51	5.31	85	
White Sulphur Spr	71	24	44	0.26	0.60	0.67	90	2.24	4.26	53	
SOUTHWEST											
Anaconda	72	22	45	0.06	0.81	0.66	123	5.14	5.05	102	
Belgrade	74	22	45	0.07	0.52	0.79	66	3.17	5.44	58	
Bozeman MSU	73	25	48	0.07	0.94	1.17	80	6.87	7.61	90	
Butte	69	19	42	0.14	0.90	0.58	155	2.33	4.33	54	
Dillon	73	24	45	0.28	0.81	0.69	117	2.05	3.56	58	
Ennis	73	22	47	0.12	0.27	0.74	36	3.68	4.63	79	
Wisdom	65	12	39	0.01	0.55	0.56	98	4.43	4.61	96	
SOUTH CENTRAL											
Billings	76	26	51	0.00	0.31	0.99	31	3.76	6.18	61	
Gardiner	70	21	48	0.07	0.07	0.35	20	1.50	3.52	43	
Hardin	80	20	52	0.00	0.02	0.78	3	3.88	4.77	81	
Livingston	68	23	44	0.17	0.76	0.90	84	3.43	5.37	64	
Rapelje	76	21	49	0.00	0.32	0.94	34	2.75	5.62	49	
Red Lodge	68	23	45	0.00	0.96	1.63	59	M	M	M	
SOUTHEAST											
Baker	75	15	44	0.39	0.39	0.79	49	2.72	4.53	60	
Broadus	78	16	50	0.04	0.08	0.88	9	2.52	4.98	51	
Ekalaka	74	13	46	0.14	0.18	1.05	17	4.20	5.91	71	
Miles City	78	21	48	0.00	0.07	0.79	9	1.32	4.31	31	

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.

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